

**House File 2294 - Introduced**

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BY BERRY and KAJTAZOVIC

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act creating a student veteran services coordinator grant  
2 program and making an appropriation.  
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **35E.1 Definitions.**

2     For the purposes of this chapter, unless the context  
3 otherwise requires:

4     1. "*Department*" means the Iowa department of veterans  
5 affairs.

6     2. "*Eligible college or university*" means any of the  
7 following:

8       *a.* An institution as defined in section 262A.2.

9       *b.* A community college as defined in section 260C.2.

10      *c.* A school as defined in section 261B.2.

11     3. "*Student veteran services coordinator*" means an employee  
12 of any private or state of Iowa college or university in this  
13 state designated by an eligible college or university to  
14 provide outreach and support services to veterans as provided  
15 in section 35E.2.

16     4. "*Veteran*" means a veteran, as defined in section 35.1,  
17 who is enrolled, is seeking to enroll, or was enrolled at any  
18 eligible college or university in this state in the previous  
19 two years, except that the requirement that the person be a  
20 resident of this state shall not apply.

21     Sec. 2. NEW SECTION.   **35E.2 Student veteran services**  
22 **coordinator.**

23     1. An eligible college or university in this state  
24 may designate one employee as a student veteran services  
25 coordinator.

26     2. The student veteran services coordinator shall:

27       *a.* Assist veterans seeking to apply for admission to the  
28 college or university.

29       *b.* Assist veterans in enrolling for courses.

30       *c.* Assist veterans in applying for and receiving  
31 service-connected education benefits.

32       *d.* Assist veterans in securing employment.

33       *e.* Assist the college or university in establishing a  
34 supportive community for veterans.

35     3. The department shall adopt rules establishing

1 requirements for employment as a student veteran services  
2 coordinator designated pursuant to this section.

3      Sec. 3. NEW SECTION.    35E.3    Student veteran services  
4 coordinator grant program.

5 1. A student veteran services coordinator grant program is  
6 created under the control of the department for the purpose of  
7 providing grants to eligible colleges and universities in this  
8 state.

9        2. *a.* An eligible college or university employing a student  
10 veteran services coordinator designated pursuant to section  
11 35E.2 may apply to the department to receive a student veteran  
12 services coordinator grant pursuant to this section.

13        *b.* An eligible college or university awarded a grant under  
14 this section shall receive a grant equal to a percentage of the  
15 first forty thousand dollars of actual salary of the student  
16 veteran services coordinator, determined as follows:

17       (1) For the first and second years, seventy-five percent.

18       (2)   For the third and fourth years, fifty percent.

19       (3) For the fifth and sixth years, twenty-five percent.

20 c. An eligible college or university shall only receive  
21 a grant for the portion of a student veteran services  
22 coordinator's salary dedicated to the performance of duties  
23 under section 35E.2, subsection 2.

24       3. An eligible college or university shall not be awarded  
25 more than six grants pursuant to this section.

26 4. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state  
27 to the department the amount necessary to pay each eligible  
28 college or university entitled to a grant under this section.

29       5. The department shall adopt rules governing the  
30 application, awarding, and distribution of grants under this  
31 section.

### EXPLANATION

33       This bill creates a student veteran services coordinator  
34 grant program to be administered by the department of veterans  
35 affairs.

1     The bill provides that certain private and public colleges  
2 and universities may apply for a student veteran services  
3 coordinator grant to pay for a portion of the salary of a  
4 student veteran services coordinator. The bill provides that  
5 the grant shall be 75 percent of the first \$40,000 in salary  
6 paid to the coordinator for the first and second year of  
7 employing such a coordinator, 50 percent of such salary in the  
8 third and fourth years, and 25 percent of such salary in the  
9 fifth and sixth years of employing such a coordinator. The  
10 bill provides that an eligible college or university shall not  
11 receive more than six grants as a part of the program. The  
12 bill provides for a standing unlimited appropriation from the  
13 general fund of the state to the department to provide such  
14 grants, and requires that the department of veterans affairs  
15 adopt rules to govern the application for, awarding, and  
16 distribution of grants.

17     The bill provides that a student veteran services  
18 coordinator shall assist veterans seeking to apply for  
19 admission to the college or university, enroll in courses,  
20 apply for and receive service-connected education benefits, or  
21 secure employment. The student veteran services coordinator  
22 shall also assist the college or university in establishing  
23 a supportive community for veterans. The bill provides that  
24 the department shall adopt rules establishing requirements for  
25 employment as a student veteran services coordinator.